

Message Text

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12

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-10

RSC-01 CCO-00 OTPE-00 EB-11 FCC-03 OC-06 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8191

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14915

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TS, PA, UN, JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN'S BROADCAST SATELLITE PROGRAM

REFS: A. STATE 197071; B. TOKYO A-868; C. TOKYO 14135;
D. TOKYO 14261

1. WE HAVE CHECKED FURTHER ON JAPAN'S PLANS FOR "DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE" PROGRAM AND FIND THAT NAKAMURA, DEPT HEAD SCIENTIFIC DIVISION, FONOFF, INEXPLICABLY, COMPRESSED JAPAN'S TEN YEAR BROADCAST SATELLITE PROGRAM INTO THE SINGLE SATELLITE DESCRIBED IN REF C. FOLLOWING MORE ACCURATE INFO IS BASED ON FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH NAKAMURA AND WITH DR. YASUHIRO KURODA, DIRECTOR SYSTEMS PLANNING, NATIONAL AGENCY FOR SPACE DEVELOPMENT (NASD).

2. SECOND OF THREE SATELLITES TO BE LAUNCHED GOJ FISCAL 1976 (REF B AND D) IS "TEST" BROADCAST SATELLITE (BS). BS WILL BE FIRST LINK IN A NATIONAL BROADCAST SYSTEM TO PROVIDE SATELLITE TV SERVICE. SYSTEM BEING SET UP BY NHK (JAPAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION). BROADCAST TRANSMISSIONS WILL BE BEAMED INTO COMMUNITY RECEIVING STATIONS,
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NOT DIRECTLY TO HOME RECEIVERS. ANTENNAS WILL BE WARPED

TO LIMIT SCOPE OF TRANSMISSION TO FOUR MAJOR JAPANESE ISLANDS.

3. SATELLITE NAKAMURA MENTIONED (PARA 2, REF C) THAT JAPAN CONTEMPLATES LAUNCHING OVER KALIMANTAN INDONESIA IS LATER STAGE OF JAPAN'S SATELLITE BROADCASTING PROGRAM. IT IS TO BE LAUNCHED PERHAPS BY 1984. IN LATER STAGES OF PROGRAM NASD AND NHK ALSO HOPE TO SET UP "DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE" SYSTEMS CAPABLE OF BEAMING DIRECTLY INTO HOME RECEIVER UNITS.

4. NAKAMURA'S OTHER REMARKS APPARENTLY ACCURATE. JAPAN PLANS TO DISCUSS WITH OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY SE ASIANS, POSSIBILITY OF JOINT USE OF BROADCAST SATELLITES, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION INTELSAT REGULATIONS. JAPANESE AWARE OF SOVIET OPPOSITION TO "DIRECT BROADCAST" AND NAKAMURA SAID PRC AND DRPK ALSO PROBABLY OBJECT.
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